

SCAT and OPS One pager

The Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) program is an integral part of the shoreline cleanup process in that it provides guidance on where shoreline cleanup is required, what constraints have to be considered, and what are the most appropriate methods to achieve the desired results. For the MC-252 spill, the close coupling of SCAT with shoreline cleanup operations is even more important because of the potential for repeat oiling of shoreline habitats and concerns about impacts from repeated cleaning.

Below is the process for shoreline cleanup operations:

1. Priorities for conducting SCAT ground surveys are based on: a) observations of shoreline oiling during daily SCAT aerial recon surveys; b) shoreline oiling reports submitted to the Situation Unit, which are passed on to SCAT; and 3) trajectories and satellite imagery.
2. SCAT surveys are used to document the shoreline type, oiling type and extent (length and width), sensitive areas in the potential work area, access issues, etc.
3. For some areas, an archaeologist accompanies the SCAT team to inspect known or suspected historical sites within the survey area.
4. The field results are combined with data on environmental resources (e.g., endangered species presence, archaeological or historical sites) and land ownership to identify site-specific constraints.
5. A Shoreline Treatment Recommendation (STR) is created containing:
 - a. Description and locations (lat/long and drawn on base maps) of the oil (zones) on the shoreline for each shoreline segment
 - b. The degree of oiling of each zone defined by the UC (Heavy, Moderate, Light, and Very Light)
 - c. Shoreline cleanup recommendations for each oiling zone
 - d. Cleanup constraints and guidelines to avoid collateral damage (environmental, archaeological, public use)
 - e. Maps and photographs showing the oil location and type
6. The STR is emailed to Houma OPS by the end of each day.
7. OPS then decides how to best implement the cleanup recommendations.
8. SCAT teams can be requested by OPS to conduct site visits and address questions or assist in refining the cleanup methods.
9. Once OPS believes the cleanup has been accomplished, they inform SCAT
10. A SCAT team visits the cleaned site to ensure that the recommended level of cleanup has been achieved.

SCAT Terms used on STRs

Surface Oiling Descriptors - Thickness

PO/TO	Pooled Oil or Thick Oil (fresh oil or mousse > 1 cm thick)
CV	Cover (oil or mousse from >0.1 cm to <1 cm on any surface)
CT	Coat (visible oil <0.1 cm, which can be scraped off with fingernail)
ST	Stain (visible oil, which cannot be scraped off with fingernail)
FL	Film (transparent or iridescent sheen or oily film)

Surface Oiling Descriptors - Type

FR	Fresh Oil (unweathered, liquid oil)
MS	Mousse (emulsified oil occurring over broad areas)
TB	Tar balls (discrete accumulations of oil <10 cm in diameter)
TC	Tar (highly weathered oil, of tarry, nearly solid consistency)
SR	Surface Oil Residue (non-cohesive, oiled surface sediments)
AP	Asphalt Pavements (cohesive, heavily oiled surface sediments)
No	No oil (no evidence of any type of oil)

Subsurface Oiling Descriptors

OP	Oil-Filled Pores (pore spaces are completely filled with oil)
PP	Partially Filled Pores (the oil does not flow out of the sediments when disturbed)
OR	Oil Residue (sediments are visibly oiled with black/brown coat or cover on the clasts, but little or no accumulation of oil within the pore spaces)
OF	Oil Film (sediments are lightly oiled with an oil film, or stain on the clasts)
TR	Trace (discontinuous film or spots of oil, or an odor or tackiness)

